

# **APPENDIX A**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Jeffrey A. Anderson                      Art Unit : 3635  
Serial No. : 10/633,694                              Examiner : Jeanette E. Chapman  
Filed : August 5, 2003  
Title : METAL FRAMING MEMBER AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**DECLARATION OF ROGER A. LABOUBE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132**

I, Roger A. LaBoube, declare:

1. I am a Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Missouri-Rolla. I have a BS, MS and PhD in Civil Engineering. I have been professionally involved with the cold-formed steel industry for over 25 years. I have authored multiple publications that serve to support the development of industry design standards for the application of cold-formed steel products in Commercial and Residential Buildings.
2. I have reviewed the metal framing member concept as presented in Provisional Application No. 60/588,798 filed on July 19, 2004 and as presented in U.S. Application Serial No. 10/633,694, also published as US 2004-0093822 A1, which claims priority to that provisional application.
3. I have reviewed the metal framing member concept to be used in wall stud applications. This concept is innovative in that it incorporates the structural features required of a wall stud application. Importantly the metal framing member design concept incorporates a highly efficient use of materials, thus the high strength to weight ratio should be realized.
4. In addition to providing an efficient load bearing wall stud, the web profile should realize significant energy efficiency. Further, the use of galvanized sheet steel is

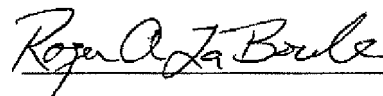
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an appropriate material selection. The sheet steel provides excellent strength and the galvanized coating will ensure long term durability.

5. All statements made herein of my knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patents issued thereon.

Date: 9/25/07

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Roger A. LaBoube", written over a horizontal line.

Roger A. LaBoube